

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A cutting head for a brush cutter, or edge trimmer, the cutting head or similar, of the type comprising a passageway (112) for a cutting string, (300) and at least one fillet curved bearing zone (120) to support the string extending between a string outlet region of the said passageway and a peripheral region of the head, characterized in that the surface of the fillet wherein a surface of the curved bearing zone presents a recessed profile (120a, 120b) which is substantially complementary to a part of the cross-section of the cutting string (300), in order to guide the cutting string in this the recessed profile when the string flexes in a direction opposite to the rotation of the head to rest against the curved bearing zone fillet.
2. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that the recess (120a, 120b) formed in the fillet curved bearing zone (120) joins the string passageway in a substantially continuous manner.
3. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 2, characterized in that the fillet curved bearing zone (120) is situated on a widening of the string passageway in the vicinity of a string outlet (115).
4. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that the profile of the surface of the fillet curved bearing zone (120) is constant.
5. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that the string passageway (112) is disposed so as to maintain the cutting string (300) in a given orientation.
6. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that the string (300) has a polygonal cross-section, with and the string has a ridge situated at the level of [[its]] a trailing edge of the string.

7. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 6, characterized in that the recessed profile (120a, 120b) is in the general form of a V.

8. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 6, characterized in that the string (300) possesses a cutting ridge at the level of [[its]] a leading edge of the string.

9. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that the fillet curved bearing zone (120) joins the peripheral region of the head substantially tangentially.

10. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that a secondary fillet curved bearing zone (122) is provided on the side of the string passageway opposite the fillet curved bearing zone (120) with recessed profile, and ~~in that this~~ the secondary fillet curved bearing zone also presents a recessed profile.

11. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 10, characterized in that the cutting string (300) has a cross-section which is symmetrical in relation to an axial mid-plane, and ~~in that~~ the recessed profiles of the two fillets curved bearing zones are identical.

12. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that the recess (120a, 120b) of the ~~fillet or of each~~ fillet curved bearing zone is formed in the region where [[the]] two parts (110a, 110b) assembled to form together the string passageway (112) and the curved bearing zone fillet (120) ~~or the fillets~~ (120, 122) meet.

13. (Currently Amended) A vegetation cutting device such as a brush cutter[[,]] or edge trimmer ~~or similar~~, characterized in that [[it]] the device comprises a cutting head (100) according to Claim 1 and a motor suitable for driving said head in rotation.

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14. (New) A cutting head according to Claim 10, characterized in that the recess of the curved bearing zone or of each curved bearing zone is formed in the region where two parts assembled to form together the string passageway and the secondary curved bearing zone meet

15. (New) A cutting head for a brush cutter or edge trimmer, the cutting head having a circular periphery, the cutting head comprising at least one passageway for a cutting string, and at least one curved bearing zone extending between a string outlet region of the said passageway and a peripheral region of the head, wherein a surface of the curved bearing zone presents a recessed profile that is substantially complementary to a part of a cross-section of the cutting string, in order to guide the cutting string in the recessed profile when the string flexes in a direction opposite to the rotation of the head to rest against the curved bearing zone, said curved bearing zone having a radius of curvature greater than half the radius of the periphery of the cutting head.

16. (New) A cutting head according to claim 15, wherein the radius of curvature of the curved bearing zone is constant.

17. (New) A cutting head according to claim 15, wherein the radius of curvature of the curved bearing zone varies continuously.

18. (New) A cutting head for a brush cutter or edge trimmer, the cutting head comprising:

a passageway for a cutting string, wherein the passageway is rectilinear and offset by a distance (D) from a central axis of the head; and

at least one curved bearing zone extending between a string outlet region of said passageway and a peripheral region of the head,

wherein a surface of the curved bearing zone presents a recessed profile that is substantially complementary to a part of the cross-section of the cutting string, in order to guide the cutting string in the recessed profile when the string flexes in a direction opposite to the

rotation of the head to rest against the curved bearing zone, and

wherein said curved bearing zone has a radius of curvature equal to or greater than the distance (D) by which the passageway is offset from the central axis of the head.

19. (New) A cutting head according to claim 18, wherein the radius of curvature of the curved bearing zone is constant.

20. (New) A cutting head according to claim 18, wherein the radius of curvature of the curved bearing zone varies continuously.

21. (New) A cutting head according to claim 18, further comprising a second passageway and a second curved bearing zone of a structure identical to that of the first mentioned passageway and curved bearing zone, with the passageways being parallel to each other and with the curved bearing zones being on diametrically opposite sides of the head.

22. (New) A cutting head according to claim 21, further comprising a motor for rotating the head about said central axis in a direction to cause a respective cutting string in each passageway to be pressed against a respective curved bearing zone.

23. (New) A cutting head according to claim 18, wherein the cutting head has a circular periphery, and wherein the radius of curvature of the curved bearing zone is greater than half the radius of the periphery of the cutting head